

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to prevent the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will decrease video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will result in the eventual demise of cable operators by being able to offer me no more local TV channels via satellite in my market area than I already receive.

I currently have broadband access to the Internet and the combination of EchoStar and HUGHES will result in decreased competition in the broadband market by providing an overpriced, mediocre-speed Internet service nationwide via satellite.

Please don't allow yet another monopoly to be created that will result in severe limits to consumers' programming choices, higher rates for service and potentially disastrous corporate control of the public airwaves.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Kel Wagner
1131 Harvard Dr.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405